THE LATE

MINISTER UNMASK'D:

OR, AN

ANSWER

TO A LATE

PAMPHLET,

ENTITLED,

The Conduct of the late Adminſtration, with regard to FOREIGN AFFAIRS, *from* 1722 *to* 1742. *Wherein that of the Right Hon. the Earl of* ORFORD, *late Sir* Robert Walpole, *is particularly vindicated.*

In a LETTER to the Reverend AUTHOR.

Loco omnium Fortuna.

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THE

Late MINISTER Unmask'd, &c.

Reverend SIR,

DID your Time ſit ſo heavily on your *Hands* ſince the *Fall* of your *Patron* put a Stop to your Perambulations through the ſumptuous Apartments of his Palace near the *T——y*, that, to divert your Melancholy, you employed that trembling Hand in writing his *Apology*, which, for three times ſeven Years, you more uſefully employed in emptying the brittle Repoſitories of his choiceſt *Wines?* or did your Prieſtly *Gratitude* riſe ſo high as to impell you to a Return of *Obligations*, by attempting to juſtify him that had confered them? or yet, which is more likely, did you vainly hope to ſcribble yourſelf into the See of *Y——k* (hourly expected to become vacant) by a coarſe dawbing over all our

late *Treaties* in a Lump, as *H——y* wrote himſelf into *W——r*, by varniſhing over the ſingle Treaty of *H——r*? Tho' there be no *Place* which you might not have expected, from the Influence of *one* who directs as diſpotically from behind the *Curtain*, as he did when he openly dictated on the Miniſterial *Stage*; yet, Doctor, be it known to you, that there are ſome Things which even your powerful whiſpering *Patron* durſt not attempt: And this of your Elevation from the beſt D—ry to the ſecond *See* in the Kingdom, I take to be one.

Intrepid and aſſuming as his *Lordſhip* is, I doubt he would not attempt the ſetting a Man above all the M——d Squadron, but one, whoſe ſole Merit is to have been an aſſiduous *Levee-hunter*, and a *Nutt* for him to crack his coarſe Jokes upon, in his unbended Hours. Partial as *ſome* have been for many Years, to *Political Merit* in the *G——n*; indifferent as they have been to more requiſite Qualifications, I can't perſuade myſelf that all your *Patron*'s Intereſt will avail towards raiſing you to a *Dignity*, which requires ſomewhat more than *Pedantry* to ſupport it with any Decency.

If

If then, Reverend Sir, you took up the *Pen* to clear your way to the *Mitre*, you have certainly wronged your Judgment, tho' you indulged your Vanity; nor were you leſs miſtaken, if you hoped to reſtore an obnoxious *Miniſter* to the Favour of an injured People, by a partial recapitulation of his Conduct. The Public *Prejudice* is too well founded to be removed by the Palliatives or Gloſſes of an abler Pen than yours. The Right Reverend Jeſuitical Author of the *Enquiry* himſelf cou'd not hope to ſucceed: He is too wiſe to attempt altering the Opinion of a People, irritated by the Experience of repeated Oppreſſion: He is too much at his Eaſe to *drudge*, that he may riſe to empty Honours: When he inliſted with the *Miniſter*, he had Perferment in view, as you may have; but beſides, he had the Advantage of writing in the Infancy of your *Patron*'s Miniſtry, before his Views were ſeen, or his Diſingenuity was known. But you, unhappily, ſet out when every Child in the Nation ſees his Drift, when the Meaſure of his Iniquity is full; when, in ſhort, he is univerſally deſpiſed and hated for being Author of the univerſal Calamity that over-ſpreads the whole Face of the Land.

'Tis now very many Years ſince you exchang'd E——n for the Court, or rather for the late Miniſter's Levee. One would think, that ſo many Years Political Experience might have warn'd you againſt committing ſo egregious a *Blunder*, as attempting to vindicate the moſt notorious *Blunderer* that ever *blundered* a Nation out of her Trade, Wealth, Influence, Reputation and Virtue. As bad Habits, and even Infection, are acquired, one would think you had catched the Diſeaſe of *Stupidity* by your Intimacy with the moſt noted *Blunderer* of the Age. How elſe can your appearing a Champion for him, at this time of Day, be accounted for?

'Tis true, we have known you draw your inoffenſive Pen occaſionally for him during his Miniſtry; and 'tis by the choice Flowers of thoſe ſeperviated Lucubrations, that we know this Political *Noſegay*. In the *Gazetteer* you ſkirmiſh'd for your *Patron*; you vindicated his Conduct in Particulars only; you defended him by Retail, but here you draw up in Form to fight his Battle; you throw out the Guantlet in ſupport of his whole Conduct; you vindicate by Wholeſale. Sure, my good Doctor, you forgot you were writing to a People as diſcerning as they are *prejudiced*, and

and ſaw not the Difficulty of your Undertaking!

We find you cautiouſly confining yourſelf to a Vindication of your *Patron*'s Conduct as to *Foreign Affairs*, tho' you ſet out pompouſly with a Promiſe of juſtifying his *Domeſtic* Tranſactions alſo. But we are to ſuppoſe that your Prieſtly Courage failed you, when you came to ruminate ſeriouſly on the more than *Herculean* Labour. And, in truth! I wonder not at your ſtopping ſhort, conſidering how much better acquainted you were with his *Domeſtic Malverſations* than his *Treaties*. Had you known *theſe* as perfectly as *thoſe*, we never ſhould have had this *Eighteen* Penny-worth of your Politicks and Integrity.

Theſe *Domeſtic* Practices of your *Patron* were too well known for you to attempt a Vindication, of them with any Hopes of Succeſs. This was, by much, too dirty a Road for you, who knew it perfectly, to venture travelling in at any time, particularly whilſt the National *Surveyors* were out upon the *Enquiry*. You wiſely foreſaw, and prudently avoided, the Danger of expoſing yourſelf to the Deriſion and Contempt of a whole People, conſcious of the Uncleanneſs of your *Patron*'s

Patron's Hand and Heart; and, by your Silence, probably, may have eſcaped a like Fate with your *Fellow Labourer* at *N*——*e*. *G*——.

Had you ſaid nothing, or honeſtly confeſſed the Truth, and aſſign'd this, that is, the *true Reaſon*, for leaving out his *Domeſtic* Atchivements in your Vindication of your *Patron*, the World would have believed, and probably have pardon'd you, becauſe of your Sincerity. But to come out with a ſneaking *Evaſion*, in the very Front of your *Preface*, that carries *Inſincerity* in every Word of it, what Quarters could you expect? "The following "Sheets were part of a larger Work, "which included all our material *Domeſ-* "*tic* as well as *Foreign* Tranſactions dur- "ing the late Adminiſtration; but it be- "ing found much too voluminous (in "the Pamphlet-way) to be publiſh'd to- "gether, it was thought proper to divide "it".——Now, had you fairly ſaid, *we promiſed a Vindication of Sir R*——'s *Domeſtic Malverſations, as well as his Blundering Negotiations, but upon Examination we found them too dark to bear the Light, and too many to be contained in a Folio Volume as large as an* Oxford *Bible, therefore, &c.*— Such an honeſt Excuſe as this would have caſt

caſt a Luſture on your whole Work. But you'll tell me, or may, that *Honeſty* was not the Buſineſs of a *Vindicator* of Sir *Some-Body*.

I thought to have dropt your *Out-Work* here, that I might haſten to batter the main Bulwarks of your Fortreſs, but I find ſo many Temptations in my way, that, for my Life, I can't paſs forward without ſpurring to the Right and Left as I move on. "The late Miniſtry, you ſay, (page "4 of your Preface) or, *Miniſter*, wanted "but to be *perfectly known* in order to be "more *popular*".——More popular! ſee what it is to be a Scholar and Grammarian; and yet no Man could have ſeen, by your *Vindication*, that you were either, unleſs you had ſhewn it by putting your *popular* in the *comparative Degree*. That Monoſyllable *more* is very ſignificant, in as much as it implies, that your *Patron* is *popular*, tho' not in the higheſt Degree.

Since you affirm that the *Miniſter* is *popular*, tho' not ſuperlatively ſo, it wou'd be uncomplaiſant in me to contradict you; but, for my better Information, I beg to know how a Man ſo *popular*, as you ſay your *Patron* is, comes to be pointed at as a *Victim* neceſſary to be ſacrificed, by almoſt all the *Electors* of *Great Britain*, in their

their Inſtructions to their Repreſentatives? I don't ſay that our *Britiſh* Electors are infallible, becauſe, if they were, your *Patron*, and ſome others, had been *ſacrificed* long before now; but ſurely it may be ſuppoſed, that they muſt have a *perfect Knowledge* of the *Man*, whom they ſo unanimouſly agree to puniſh. You may perceive, by the Unanimity of our *Electors*, how your popular *Patron* wou'd fare, *had the People been left to judge for themſelves.* It may be judged, from their preſent Behaviour, how little Grounds you had for aſſerting, " that, if they were left to judge " for themſelves, they would have been " as *warm* in the Intereſt of the *Miniſtry* " as they were *cool* upon them, *&c.*"—— Yes, Doctor, the People are cool upon your *Patron* to ſome purpoſe; nor will they be leſs cool upon his *Inquiſitors* ſhou'd he eſcape *uncenſured* at leaſt, if not unpuniſhed.

" The Temper and Decency of Expreſ- " ſion obſerved, you ſay, page 5, through- " out this whole Piece, is a Proof that it " was calculated for *Concord* and *Union*".— What Man in his Senſes, that pleads for a *Criminal*, would uſe intemperate and indecent Expreſſions to irritate his Judge? But, ſmooth Cringing, Sir, I could lay my Thumb

Thumb on ſome of your Handy-work written in the Zenith of your *Patron*'s Power, when your Expreſſion was not altogether as temperate and decent as your preſent Apology; but in thoſe happy Days you ſwam with the Current; now you tug againſt it.

You make a very long Apology, (page 6) to the Gentleman to whom you inſcribe your Work, for the Liberties you have taken with him: And good Reaſon you had; for never was any Gentleman of his Conſequence catechiſed ſo rudely and treated ſo ſcurrilouſly by one that ſets out for an old Crony and Friend.——You forgot you ſneered at him, page 4 and 5, of the Work, and in a hundred Places beſides, *Pique and Ambition*; *Envious Averſion to one Great Man, whom you thought yourſelf intitled to equal at leaſt, if not to exceed, &c. they have left you few Intervals of cool Reflection, &c.* If this be your *Tenderneſs*, *Decency* and *Defence* for the Man to whoſe *Moderation* your *Patron*, very probably, will owe his Life; the Lord preſerve me from the *Tenderneſs* of the Sons of *Aaron*. This very Apology you make him in your Preface is a mere Banter upon him, tho' if you intended your *Patron* any Benefit from your Wri-

 tings,

tings, you could not mean to banter the Man whom you compliment for his *Moderation*, on which alone the Safety of your *Patron* depended. " You formerly " revered him, you ſay, for his Candour, " good Senſe, Principle, and Politeneſs; " but you now eſteem him for his *Mo-* " *deration*". I am much miſtaken if the *Freeholders* of *M——x* ſee that Gentleman's *Moderation* in ſo amiable a Light as you do.

The uncommon Pains you take to perſuade us that you undertook this elaborate Apology as a *Volunteer*, and that you wrote it without the conſent or privity of your *Patron*, is the ſtrongeſt Preſumption, that if he did not ſit at your Elbow he furniſh'd you with Materials; for it is obſerved of the *Innocent*, that they are leſs ſolicitous than the *Guilty*, about what ſhall be ſaid or thought of them. If you had been a real Volunteer you never had taken all this Pains to be thought one.

" If any of the late *Miniſtry*, you ſay, " had thought a *Vindication* neceſſary, " they certainly wou'd have employed an " *Abler Pen*; or had they been made " acquainted with even this Attempt in " their Favour, they would have furniſhed " other *Materials* than appear to have

" been

" been in this Author's Hands".—— I never knew a *Prieſt* that did not love *Pluralities*; wherefore it is excuſable in you to put the Word *Miniſtry* for *Miniſter* here, as in moſt other parts of your Work, but with regard to an *Abler Pen*, and *Materials*: You can't forget that your *Patron* was always charged with being unlucky in his Choice of *Penmen*; no wonder then that he ſhou'd not be leſs lucky in the *Wean* than he was in the Plenitude of Power. But as for *Materials*, one may perceive you were abundantly ſupply'd, when you take upon you to aſſert *that your Patron had no hand in the Treaty of Hanover*. I ſhall have occaſion to mention this *Aſſertion* hereafter; but for the preſent, I think I may be allowed to *aſſert* in my turn, that your making it ſo roundly as you do, proves but too evidently that you had all the reſt of your *Materials* as well as this from your *Patron*.

After you have paved your way to the Gentleman, whom you inſcribe your *Apology* to, by a Panegyrick on his *Moderation*, you tell us, (page 7) " 'Tis not doubt-
" ed that the National *Enquiry* let on
" Foot will prove a full *Juſtification*,
" with regard to our *Domeſtic* Tranſac-
" tions, of the Noble *Peer*, whoſe Name

" is mention'd in the Title-page of this " Work, &c".—— At the begining of the preſent Seſſion of Parliament, I believe, few Men imagined that a *National Enquiry* would prove a *full Juſtification* of your *Patron*'s Innocence; but as Matters have been *moderately* managed ſince, I believe, as few doubt that the *Enquiry* will *juſtify* rather than *condemn.*

But you proceed: " And as for his " Conduct with regard to *Foreign* Tranſ- " actions 'tis hoped what is ſaid here of " it, will juſtify him to all that read with " an intent to be informed and ſet " right".——If the *Moderation* of the *Gentleman* you write to, proved not a more powerful Advocate for your *Patron* than your *Vindication* of his Conduct with regard to *Foreign* Affairs, I doubt he would be *poorer* by a *Million* at leaſt, and *ſhorter* by the H—d, in a very little time, than he is at preſent. Happy for him that there are Men in the World, who Idolize *Riches*, and prefer *Gold* to Honour, Country, and Truth. But we will, with your leave, Doctor, examine if your Apology for your *Patron* be of ſuch *Force* as ſhou'd *juſtify him to all that read with an intent to be informed and ſet right.* For my part, I always read with an intent to be informed;

formed; and am never better pleaſed than when I ſee Reaſon for altering my Opinion of one I had been prejudiced againſt. But really, Doctor, I feel no ſuch exquiſite Satisfaction in the reading your *Vindication*, tho' I peruſed it with the utmoſt Attention. Your Diction, indeed, is flowing and natural, tho' not elegant; and your Subject is digeſted methodically and artfully, but as for *Argument* and *Force*, let him find them who can: I freely own I could meet with neither, from Page one to four-ſcore. To recompence the want of Argument, we find you vilifying King *William* and Queen *Ann*'s Miniſter's, his late Majeſty King *George*, the late Earls *Stanhope* and *Sunderland*, and Lord *Townſhend*, Count *Bothmar*, and that conſtant Miniſterial Mark, the Viſcount *B——ke*, in order to extenuate the Guilt of your *Patron*; but for any Blots you have rubbed out by criminating the *Wiſe* and *Honeſt*, let *Penſioners* and *Placemen* declare; no other will, I am ſure. But your Charge is not confined to *Perſons* alone, it extends to the preſent moſt ſacred part of our Conſtitution.

After you compliment your *Patron* (page 10,) on the great Superiority of his *Underſtanding*, you tell us—" An *Underſtanding*

" *ſtanding* he has unweariedly and uſe-
" fully employed for the preſervation of a
" *Conſtitution* founded upon the Glorious
" *Revolution*, which is now become the
" Baſis of all our Rights, Liberty and
" Happineſs:—By this we ſhall try him;
" by this let him ſtand or fall".—— With all my Heart, good Doctor, let your *Patron* be tryed by the Touch-ſtone of *Revolution* Principles. Let us have a clear Stage, and no modern *Moderation*, and ſee how long he will keep upon his Gouty Legs if he lean to neither the *T——e*, nor *Gold*, nor to any Prop except the *Revolution*.

How do you think will the aggrandizing the Houſe of *Bourbon*, at the Expence of that of *Auſtria*, ſquare with *Revolution* Principles? Caſt your Eye on the Declaration of the Convention-Parliament, and ſee if Elections of Members of Parliament ought not to be *Free*; and tell me afterwards, if the moſt notorious Corruption of *Electors* and *Elected* ever known, be conſiſtent with the Principles of the *Revolution?* When your Hand is in, ſay, if deſtroying the *Trade*, and ſinking the *Reputation* of the Nation with *Foreigners*, corrupting their *Morals*, increaſing *Penal Laws*, and keeping up a *Standing Army*

in

in time of Peace, be Fruits that grow on the *Revolution* Stock.

I know you of old apt to ſhoot your Bolt at random, but here you have gone quite wide of any Mark you ought to have had in view: But 'tis not the *Revolution* alone that you have attempted to wound; for the better to vindicate your *Patron*, you have dropt your *Gall* on the Act of *Settlement* alſo, and the preſent *Royal Family*. As this is a Point of the utmoſt Importance, I muſt be at the trouble of tranſcribing your Words at large, that my Readers may ſee I don't animadvert but upon the moſt cogent Reaſons.

" But when, you ſay (page 11) the late " King accepted of the Crown in virtue " of the Act of Settlement, we are not to " ſuppoſe that he intended to be reſtrain- " ed from maintaining his Intereſt in *Ger-* " *many*, nor from protecting and *cheriſh-* " *ing* his Subjects there. This would " have been a Hardſhip, it would have " been an oblique *Cruelty*, which, I aſſure " myſelf, you would no more inſiſt upon " in this Reign, than you would connive " at it in that; it would be *unreaſonable*, " it would be *unjuſt*, &c".——We will preſently examine the *Cruelty*, *Unreaſonableneſs* and *Injuſtice* of thoſe Patriots that had

had tyed down all Kings of the preſent Line, from viſiting thoſe *German Dominions* without conſent of Parliament, and from ever involving theſe Nations in any War or Expence on account of them. When a Man has his Election, it can never be urged that he is cruelly or unjuſtly dealt with; but in the mean while 'tis neceſſary to proceed in our Quotaſtions from your precious Performance.

" Here then (page 11 and 12) are two " eſſential Points, which a *Britiſh* Mini- " ſter muſt never loſe Sight of; he muſt " have them conſtantly in view (Here " follows theſe Corner-Stones which a " *Britiſh* Miniſter is to build upon.) A " Miniſter can never act up to the Spirit " of the *Revolution*, (which, you it ſeems, " determine never to let reſt in Peace) " nor anſwer the Ends of it, unleſs he have " a conſtant Eye to the defeating all ſe- " cret as well as open Attempts in favour " of the *Pretender*, and the ſupporting, " and even *extending* the Power and In- " fluence of our preſent Royal Family in " *Germany*. They are Points ſo abſo- " lutely neceſſary towards ſtrengthening " the Proteſtant Intereſt, and *preſerving* " *all that's dear to us*, that I aſſure myſelf " of your hearty concurrence in the main- " tenance of them". 'Tis

'Tis a trite old Saying, that the longer a Man lives, the more Knowledge he acquires; but really, my Reverend Statesman, I believe I might live to the Age of old *Neſtor* and not know, unleſs you had informed me, " that *extending* the " Power and Influence of our preſent " Royal Family in *Germany* was a Point " ſo abſolutely *neceſſary*, as that the *Pre-* " *ſervation* of all that's *dear* to *Britons*, " depended upon it". Nor till you are pleaſed to affirm it, upon the Authority of your *Patron*, could I ſee the *Hardſhip*, the *Cruelty*, *Unreaſonableneſs*, or *Injuſtice* of the *Reſtraint* laid on our Kings of the Reigning Royal Line by the Act of *Settlement*, of not leaving theſe Kingdoms, and not involving theſe Nations in all the Calamities of War for the Sake of the *Electorate*.

We have had ſome of our old *Engliſh* Kings, without being poſſeſſed of an Inch of *Foreign* Land, that have made as great a Figure in *Europe*, and have had as great Influence on the Continent, and even in *Germany*, as his preſent Majeſty or his Royal Father. The firſt Treaty of *Vienna* in the late Reign, the Election of the preſent *Emperor* and the preſent calamitous State of the Houſe of *Auſtria*, prove

but too evidently that the *H———n* Dominions add not to the Influence of our Rulers of the preſent Royal Race. Therefore how it comes to paſs that the *Preſervation* of all that is *dear* to us here in *Britain*, ſhould depend on the Support and *Enlargement* of his Majeſty's *German* Dominions, is more than I or any Man living can tell, except D——B——, and his doubling *Patron*.

If then it be a doubtful Point at beſt, whether *the Preſervation of all that is dear to us depends on extending his Majeſty's Dominions in Germany*, the Care of them cannot be ſo eſſentially and abſolutely *neceſſary* as you ſeem to imagine. This can never be one of thoſe two *eſſential Points* which a *Britiſh* Miniſter muſt never loſe Sight of. The other Point, that is, the keeping out the *Pretender*, may be deemed a Point neceſſary for him to *keep conſtantly in View*; but in Truth, Doctor, it requires more than H——dl——n Sophiſtry to perſuade an *Engliſhman*, that either a *Britiſh* Miniſter or *Britain* have any thing to do with *H———r*, or any of its Appurtenances.

Our wiſe Succeſſors were aware that future Miniſters would ingratiate themſelves

ſelves at the Expence of theſe Nations, and therefore made wholeſome Proviſion againſt the Evil. But little did they think it would ever be avowedly profeſſed, that the Enlargement of *H*————*r*, and the keeping out the *Pretender* were Points of equal Concern to a *Britiſh* Miniſter.

I doubt, my worthy Dignitary, you, won't have much thanks for blabing out a Secret of ſo very high Importance. But old Men as well as Childeren will often bolt out Truths, which in Policy ought not to be revealed. The Propagation of this *Doctrine* would certainly go a great way, towards acquitting your *Patron* of *Foreign Subſidies*, *Heſſians*, *Danes*, and a multitude of other heavy Articles laid to his Charge; but what would be the Conſequence? That the Nation muſt neceſſarily ſee, that our *Debts* and *Taxes* can never be reduced whilſt our K——s have *G——n* Do——ns. The Fact truly ſtated would ſtand thus.

The Act of Settlement abſolutely forbids our interfering upon any Pretence whatever, with, or for *H*——; but Doctor B— affirms, that a *Britiſh* Miniſter is indeſpenſibly obliged to be as watchful of *H*——*r*, as of keeping out the *Pretender*. *Ergo*, the Act of *Settlement* is a Cobweb

through which the Doctor's *Patron* ha drove a Coach a Six, in which the aforesaid Reverend Divine juſtifies him upon his own infallible Authority.

But to be ſerious: Could you find no Argument in favour of your *Patron*, but what turn'd in Diſfavour of his Royal M——r? Was there no way to ſhield the *Miniſter* from national Reſentment, but by wounding the Intereſt of the Prince and all his Auguſt Houſe? Did you ſee the dangerous Conſequences of the *Propoſition* you advance, I don't think, obliged as you may be to your *Patron*, you would offer it in his Juſtification. Was this a Seaſon, when a certain late *Neutrality* beſpoke the Attention of a jealous People, to maintain a Propoſition againſt a poſitive fundamental *Law?* Was it a time to refreſh People's Memories about the Expending *Millions* againſt Law, that ought to have been applyed towards the Diſcharge of *Debts*, and the leſſening of *Taxes?*

To view the Surface only of this dangerous *Propoſition*, and of *one other* lately advanced by the Approbation of your *Patron*, one would be inclined to conclude that he doubted of *Protection*, and therefore was determined to make Court to the

the Public at his *Maſter's* Expence; but to examine them circumſpectly, not only this but a different Interpretation may be put upon them, which might make every Lover of *Britain* dread the Loſs of his Freedom.

The two *Propoſitions* ſtript of all Diſguiſe, are theſe: *That we his Majeſty's Britiſh Subjects are indiſpenſably obliged to guard and maintain him in his Rights and Poſſeſſions in* Germany, *as in* Great Britain *and* Ireland. *And that a Standing Army in times of the profoundeſt Peace is become ſo neceſſary, that it is or ought to be as much a part of our Conſtitution as the Annual Sitting of Parliaments.*

You, Reverend Sir, aſſert the firſt of theſe extraordinary *Propoſitions* in this *Vindication* of your *Patron* with regard to *Foreign Affairs*: and the Author of the *By-ſtander* aſſerts the *Second* in his *Vindication* of him with regard to *Domeſtic Affairs*. Both *Propoſitions* are highly dangerous, but not equally ſo; and both are againſt poſitive fundamental Laws. The Act of *Settlement* peremptorily forbids the *firſt*; and the *Declaration* of the *Convention* Parliament expreſly forbids the *ſecond*.

If the *firſt* hold good, there is no knowing the End of our Expence, it being

being clear, that these Nations must always necessarily maintain *Foreign Troops* and pay *Subsidies* to Foreign Princes, in support of the *Electorate* and its Acquisitions. And if the *second* be maintain'd, our *Liberties* will and must always depend on the *Virtue* of the *Prince* and his *Ministers*. Of the *first* we have no reason to be jealous; but the Misfortune is that by the course of Nature we must lose him. And as for *Ministers*, we have known too much of them, and particularly of your *Patron*, to trust them with so dangerous a Weapon as a *Standing Army*.

But let us hear your profound Reasons (page 12.) for violating the Act of Settlement. "The King, in Quality of *Elector*, "can have few or no Disputes with an "Emperor, or the other Princes of the "Empire; or indeed with any other "Powers in Europe. Therefore, as all "his Difficulties in that Part of the World "always must arise from his ruling over "us, we are obliged as much in *Justice* "as in Maintenance of the common "Protestant Interest, to support him against "all Infringements and Invasions of his "Rights and Dominions". ——Really, Doctor, I am not clear, but his Majesty and his Heirs may hereafter occasionally be

be involved in Quarrels and Diſputes in *Germany* in which theſe Nations could not poſſibly have any Concern in Point of Intereſt. For inſtance, ſhould any Prince of our preſent Royal Family ambitiouſly deſire to extend their Territories in *Germany*, or diſpute the Execution of *Teſtaments*, or other Donations, or Compacts, out of Motives beſt known to themſelves, I ſee no Reaſon why theſe Nations ſhould interfere? 'Tis true, you are ſilent as to *Donations* Teſtamentary or otherwiſe, but you inſinuate ſtrongly in the following Words, that we are obliged to ſupport all *German* Conqueſts or *Acquiſitions*. "His "late Majeſty's *Acquiſitions* of *Bremen* "and *Verden* render his Royal Heirs, in "Quality of Electors, more uſeful to "*Great Britain* than all the other Pro-"teſtant Allies". (page 13.)

By this Rule, if *Sweden* ſhould attempt to recover theſe *Dutchies*, which ſhe poſſeſſed ever ſince the ſolemn Treaty of *Oſnabrug* in 1648, till *Denmark* ſeiz'd upon them during the Captivity of *Charles* XIIth. theſe Nations ſhall be obliged to wage War againſt that powerful Northern Crown, at the Expence of our Trade to the *Baltic*. Or ſhould any future Prince of our Illuſtrious Line, take a fancy to *Ham-*

Hamburg or any other dainty Morſel in the Neighbourhood of *H——r*, Whip, we *Britons* muſt prove and defend his Title with the *Ratio ultima regum.*

To inforce this new and dangerous *Propoſition*, you tell us (page 15.) that all *Miniſters* ſerving our preſent Royal Family muſt involve theſe Nations for the ſake of *H——r*, to the End of Time. The Paragraph is ſo curious, that I muſt quote it at Length. " It being then the *Duty* " of all ſuch *Miniſters* as would faithfully diſcharge the Truſt repoſed in them, " to act as well in ſupport of his Majeſty's Power on the Continent, (*Germany*) as in maintaining him in the " quiet and peaceable Poſſeſſion of theſe " Kingdoms, I ſhall now endeavour to " prove that all our *Treaties*, ever ſince " the Adminiſtration of the preſent (late) " *Miniſter*, were calculated for theſe ſalutary, neceſſary Ends: I ſhall in the " next Place ſhew, that all our *Domeſtic* " Tranſactions of any Moment, have been " conſiſtent with this neceſſary Scheme " of Government; and laſtly, I ſhall attempt, and hope to *demonſtrate*, that " all our *Politics*, both Foreign and Domeſtic, have been ſuch *as muſt always hereafter* be purſued by all who ſucceed

" Sir

" Sir *R——W——* in the *Confidence* of " the *Prince*; and who would eternize " the Happineſs accruing from our *Re-* " *ſiſtance* in the laſt Century".—I won't diſpute with you, that all who would ſucceed your *Patron* in the *Confidence* of the *Prince* will be obliged to act as he has done; but I cannot ſo readily admit, *that the Happineſs accruing from our Reſiſtance in the laſt Century*, depends ſolely on our *Miniſter*'s involving theſe Nations on Account of *Foreign* Dominions, in breach of Law.

If our Happineſs cannot be *eternized* without involving theſe Nations on the Account of *H———r*, my Advice is, to annex the El——e to the Crown by Act of Parliament; and then future *Miniſters* may *legally* ſucceed Sir *R——t* in the *Confidence* of the P——e. Obſerve, Reverend Sir, that I pretend to no other Foundation for this friendly Advice, but your *Propoſition*.

The *Propoſition* of your Fellow-Labourer, the Author of the *By-ſtander*, tacitly at leaſt, ſuppoſes the conſent of Parliament to a *Standing Army* in time of Peace; but nothing of this kind appears in yours expreſly or by Implication. By your Doctrine, *H——r* is to be ſupported at

all Hazards, and at any Expence: And the *Miniſter* that does not run this dangerous Riſk, cannot ſucceed your *Patron* in the Confidence of the P——e. The *By-ſtander* goes not intirely this Length: He leans not altogether ſo heavily on your *Patron's* Royal M——r as you do. He ſays not, that no future Miniſter can ſucceed Sir *R———t* in the *Confidence* of the P——e, unleſs he ſtrengthens his Hands by a *Standing Army*. The *By-ſtander* may mean this, and probably does where he aſſerts, that the Safety of all our Property in the *public Funds* depends on a conſtant *Standing Army*; but he is too much a Courtier to lugg his P——e into the Debate without abſolute Neceſſity. He gilds the Pill more artfully by urging the Neceſſity of a *Standing Army* to guard that which is deareſt to Man, his *Property*.

One can't ſufficiently admire the *Happineſs* of theſe Nations; and the *Wiſdom* of the laſt Generation, and *Integrity* of the preſent. Our great Happineſs conſiſts in having *H——r* to guard at all Hazard and Expence Abroad; and our Funds at Home, at the Hazard of our *Freedom*, by keeping up a conſtant *Standing Army*. *Nimium perbeati Britanni!* Who can won-

der after this, if it ſhould become a ſtanding Maxim never to diſcharge the National Debt that there may be always *Funds* to guard?

From the Title of your *Vindication*, I expected the poor Treaty of *Utrecht* and one of the principal *Conductors* of it, would be drawn in to prove the milkwhite Innocence of your *Patron*. I was not miſtaken. For after ſettling your Plan, by aſſerting the Neceſſity of ſupporting the El———e, you proceed (page 16.) "Without caſting any perſonal Reflexions on "one of your preſent Boſom *Friends*, "who had a chief Hand in concluding "the Peace of *Utrecht*, you will allow "that the vaſt Power lodged in the Houſe "of *Bourbon* by that Treaty, has occa"ſioned moſt or all our *Negotiations* and "*Expences* ever ſince". ——You go on, (page 17.) "I will not doubt neither that "you concur with me, that that fatal "Treaty laid the Foundation for even the "preſent Broils of *Europe*, remote as they "may ſeem".

What need had you, my worthy Apologiſt, to ſpin out threeſcore Pages more to *Vindicate* your *Patron*, having ſaid enough in all conſcience in theſe few Lines to juſtify a Shipload of *Miniſters*. Mind

the Energy and irreſiſtible Force of them. *B—h—ke*, who made the Peace of *Utrecht*, and not Sir *R——W——e*, has laid the Foundation for the preſent Broil in *Germany*, and is accountable for the Ruin of the Houſe of *Auſtria*, the Loſs of the Ballance of Power, and for all our fooliſh *Treaties* and *Expences* ſince the Year 1722; or if you pleaſe, ſince the *Acceſſion*. What a load is now thrown on the Shoulders of a poor Man in the decline of Age, and friendleſs at Court or in Parliament, in favour of one wallowing in Wealth, careſs'd at C—t, and revered in P———t. Well! this ſame Treaty of *Utrecht* is the pureſt thing that ever was. 'Tis the Philoſopher's Stone; 'tis every Thing in the Mouth of a Courtier. Were the Supplies for attacking *Carthagena* ſent three Months too late; you muſt blame the Peace of *Utrecht*. Has the King of *P——a* been diſguſted by the non-performance of *Wills* or Codicils, and thrown himſelf into the Arms of *France*, you muſt impute it to the Treaty of *Utrecht*. Did the Convoys of *Spain* proceed unmoleſted to *Italy* in ſight of Admiral *Haddock*, let the Peace of *Utrecht* anſwer for his Miſconduct, or the Tameneſs of his *Inſtructors*. Has the public Money been ſunk in Bribery and Cor-

Corruption, let it be put to the Account of that Burthen-bearing Treaty. Let Miniſters be Fools or Knaves, 'tis all one; let Parliaments be in the true Intereſt of the Nation or not, it matters not a Fig; let the *Court* ſet her choiceſt Jewels in the *Ducal Coronet*, or Imperial Crown, 'tis all one. In fine, let the Seaſons be fair or inclement, and the World go as it will, ſtill ſhall the Treaty of *Utrecht* anſwer for all.

But, my Reverend Champion, what Neceſſity was you under (page 20,) to laſh the late King, and even his preſent Majeſty, after you had bundled up all the *Miniſterial Rubbiſh*, and fairly flung it on that Pack-Horſe Treaty? "The late King, and indeed moſt Kings, "often act independent of the Advice of "Miniſters, for which Reaſon, nothing "is more fallacious, nothing would be "more unjuſt, than making a Miniſter "accountable for all that happens dur-"ing the Exiſtence of his Influence". Now according to the muſty Maxims of our Laws, the King is infallible; how then, my good Doctor, will you come off here? If the Miniſter be obliged at the riſk of his Head, to anſwer for what happens in his Adminiſtration, what comes of your *nothing would be more unjuſt than making*

making a Miniſter accountable for all that happens during his Influence.——Your laſt Words (during the exiſtence of his *Influence*) deſtroys all the reſt of your Poſition. For to ſuppoſe the Exiſtence of a Miniſter's *Influence*, is ſuppoſing that he has the Power to direct the *Cabinet*; and if he have, nothing is leſs unjuſt than to make him accountable for all Orders iſſuing from it, or Reſolutions taken therein.

Your other *Salvo*, (page 23) taken from the Noble Hiſtorian, will avail you as little as *Saddling* the *Throne* with the Blunders of your *Patron*'s Adminiſtration. " This Great Man's (Sir *R*——*t*) Con-
" duct with regard to this Tranſaction,
" (the legiſlative Grace extended to the
" Lord *Bolingbroke*) and many more I
" could mention, puts me in Mind of
" what my Lord *Clarendon* ſays of him-
" ſelf, *viz.* That he has often, as believing
" himſelf *obliged in Duty*, argued in the
" *Senate* in Favour of many Points,
" which he had ſtrenuouſly oppoſed at the
" *Council Table*".——The noble *Biographer* may be as much revered and thought as infallible for ought I know as St. *P*—*l*, as *O*——*d* and *C*——*ge*; but be aſſured, Doctor, that the Men of the World can never look upon him to be an *honeſt Man*,

who

who *thinks himself obliged in Duty to Argue and Vote against his Opinion and Conscience.* This Doctrine may go down at *Court*, where Men too often truckle to be smiled upon; but never can be relished any where else.

From hence we may see the Wisdom of our Ancestors who framed the *Act of Settlement*; they foresaw that this sophistical Distinction would be practised, and therefore proved that all future *Privy Counsellors shou'd attest their Opinions under their Hands.* But this necessary Provision, like some others, is explain'd away by such supple Gentlemen as your *Patron*, who chuse to obey at the expence of Conscience.

But so careful are you to entrench your *Patron* up to the Chin, we find you providing better *Security* for him (page 23 and 24) than either the Treaty of *Utrecht* or the *Throne*. " If this *Minister* " had not the chief Direction of *Domes-* " *tic* Transactions, much less can he be " supposed to have directed *Foreign* Af- " fairs of the greatest Moment and Con- " sequence. These, as I have said before, " were solely conducted by others, at " least whilst Lord *T—n—d* was in Pow- " er (the Dead tell no Tales.) During " this

" this Interval of Sir *R*—— *W*——*e*'s
" want of Power, I mean the *Chiefeſt*
" *Power* (that is the *regal*, I ſuppoſe) was
" the Treaty of *Hanover*, projected and
" concluded to counter-ballance the firſt
" Treaty of *Vienna* between the late Em-
" deror and *Spain*".——Here you ſouſe your *Hero*, Heel and all, into the Life-preſerving Waters. Had old *Pallas* been as cautious, her *Greek* Favourite had been ſafe. What *Committee* can come at a *Miniſter* that is invulnerable? and what Armour ſo impenetrable as *flatly denying*, when Counſellors don't atteſt their Opinions, to have had any hand in the only Tranſaction that has produced all the *Evils* of a long Adminiſtration? This we muſt ſuppoſe of the Treaty of *Hanover*, if there be any Truth in what you ſay afterwards, page 24.

" As the Treaty of *Hanover* had been
" attended with the greateſt *Difficulties*,
" and an enormous but unavoidable *Ex-*
" *pence*, I don't wonder that the *Craftſ-*
" *man* (your polite Epithet for the *oppoſing*
" Nobles and Gentry) ſhould uſe every
" Art, employ all their Addreſs to place
" it to the ſole Account of the preſent
" (late) *Miniſter*, however ſenſible they
" were, and you, Sir, in particular, that

" he

" he was the *Projector*, nor had all the Di-
" rection of that important Affair. But
" without fixing this *Treaty* upon him,
" they could not with any tolerable Colour
" raiſe up that formidable Pile of politi-
" cal Scandal, (had *Longinus* ſeen this
" ſuper-elegant Phraſe, the ſacred Law-
" giver's Words had not been quoted as an
" Example of the Sublime) from whence
" he was aſſail'd on the Score of *Heſſian*
" Troops, *Foreign* Subſidies, and many
" *Expenſive* Articles conſequential of that
" Treaty.

But you forget, Doctor, that a very few Pages before, you told us that your *Patron* was obliged to ſupport and guard the *Electorate*, which if he was, there could be no Colour for aſſailing him on the ſcore of *Heſſians*, Subſidies, or any other *Expence* conſequential of the Treaty calculated for the Meridian of *H———r*. That the Treaty of *Hanover* was entered into for this ſole Purpoſe, appears manifeſtly from what you ſay, (page 30.) " The
" Intereſt of his Royal Maſter, always inſe-
" perable from that of his Country, and the
" common Cauſe of the Proteſtant *Reli-*
" *gion* (which to be ſure was to be nurſed
" up tenderly by *France*) were ſufficient
" Motives to induce him (our *Patron*) to

" concur in such Measures as seemed most " likely to preserve the King's *Possession* " and *Influence* in *Germany*, now become " exposed to the Power and Resentment of " the Court of *Vienna*".

Of all the Writers I have known, you are certainly the most circumspect. You out-go by a long Bow shot, the Right Reverend Author of the *Enquiry*, whom however you vouchsafe to follow (page 25) by striking *Terror* into the Hearts of your Readers. " For considering the known " *Bigotry* of the new-allied Princes (the " Emperor and *Phillip* V.) their Power " to draw all or most of the Catholic Prin- " ces of *Europe* into this Scheme, and the " likelihood of a Perpetuity of their Friend- " ship should the *Archdutchesses* intermar- " ry with the Princes of *Spain*; I say, " these *Reasons* considered, we must not " wonder that the late King, as a *Pro-* " *testant* (and not as Duke of *H*——*r*) was " alarmed, and took such Precautions as " were likely to defeat the pernicious De- " signs of the New Allies".

How infinitely obliged is your *Patron* to you, that thus watchfully guard every Avenue that can possibly lead to him, least the *denial* of having had a Hand in the Treaty of *Hanover* shou'd not shield him from

from Accuſation, you juſtify it with great Force and admirable Addreſs. You have a ſtring of Reaſons in ſupport of your Juſtification of that memorable *Treaty*, all equally concluſive; but one amongſt the reſt, which you give us, (page 27) is ſo extravagantly convincing, that I can't help tranſcribing it. "But the Emperor, not "contented with ſo many glaring Inſtan-"ces of his Indifference towards his late "Majeſty, he refuſed him the Inveſtiture "the Dutchies of *Bremen* and *Verden*, "which, as a Purchaſer and Member of "the Empire, the late King had a right "to demand and expect".——Who can doubt that *Great Britain* was eſſentially affected by this contumelious *Refuſal*; or that the Head of the Empire had not acted unjuſtly in refuſing the Inveſtiture of a *Purchaſe* that had been made conſiſtent with ſtrict *Juſtice* and the Law of Nations? As it was well known to the Empire and all *Europe*, that *Denmark* came *honeſtly* by *Bremen* and *Verden*, without doubt, he was obliged by his Coronation Oath, to confirm the Title of ſo *fair* a Purchaſe: And ſince he would not, it was but reaſonable to compel him. What ſignifies it, if this *Compulſion* was attended with an *enormous Expence*, and the Loſs of

the *Spaniſh* Trade for many Years? If *H——r* dance after new *Acquiſitions*, why ſhou'd not *England* pay the Piper? 'tis what you ſay ſhe is obliged to, tho' the *Act of Settlement* uncomplaiſantly ſays otherwiſe.

When I found you cloathing your *Patron* with the impenetrable Armour of *denial*, and roundly flinging the Odium of this *Hanover* Treaty on one that can't ſpeak for himſelf, I thought you had done with it; but reflecting that your *Patron* had often ſolemnly taken, not only this but all our *Treaties* ſince the Year 1722 on himſelf, I applaud your Zeal and Courage. Your *Zeal*, by far, exceeds the *Enquirers*; and your *Courage* exceeds not only his, but all the *Gazetteer*'s put together. Thoſe puny *Apologiſts* endeavou'd to juſtify the *Treaty* from Reaſons regarding *Great Britain* only; but you take true Prieſtly Latitude, and ſpeak the *whole Truth*, a Virtue unknown to your *Patron*. And however I may differ from you as to the rectitude of the Motives for concluding that perplexing, expenſive *Treaty*, I intirely agree that your Juſtification of it is amply honeſt and well founded. Whether or no your Juſtification of that *Treaty* will be reliſh'd at C——t I

can't

can't ſay, but I believe there is not a Man in the Nation, unprovided with *Place* or *Penſion*, that won't agree with you, that the Treaty of *Hanover* and all our ſubſequent Treaties to this Day, were calculated more for advancing *H*——— than *E*———.

Before I part with this precious *Treaty*, let us ſee your ſhrewd Reaſons, (page 33) " For that Political *Slowneſs* or *Supineneſs* " which appeared in our Councils and " Conduct, after we had put ourſelves to " the Expence of thoſe Armaments which " were of abſolute Neceſſity at that Criſis. " Theſe, we may imagine, were the only " Reaſons for theſe *pacific* Inſtructions to " our Admirals, *&c*".——Theſe Reaſons are too curious to be ſtifled or curtail'd by an humble Annotator as I am, and therefore ſhall be inſerted at large.

" Meaſures of Violence muſt have " plunged us into great Difficulties; they " would go far towards confirming to " *France* that *Influence* over us, which all " the Meaſures of that former Adminiſtra- " tion had contributed to; and of which " we are willing to get rid, now that the " Death of the Duke of *Orleans* had " chang'd the Face of Affairs, as faſt as " the Nature of Things would permit.

" Violent

" Violent Meaſures might have cauſed an " irreparable Breach with the *Emperor*, " whom, as our Natural Ally, we had it " in our view to bring to a Senſe of his " own Intereſt, and back to his former " Friendſhip with our Court. Precipita- " ted Meaſures would have plunged us " into a War, and an intire Rupture with " *Spain*, a Kingdom uſeful above all o- " thers to theſe Nations; and ſuch a Rup- " ture could not fail of opening a Way " to other Trading Nations to ſupplant " us in our valuable Commerce with " her".

Here, your *Patron*'s *Gratitude* to his late Majeſty appears in juſt ſuch an amiable light as her Grace of *M*———'s to her deceas'd Royal Miſtreſs. *He was willing to get rid of that Influence over us which* France *had acquired for almoſt twelve Years of his Majeſty's Reign.*——Juſt ſuch another grateful Compliment may be paid to the Memory of his preſent Majeſty, if for the Sins of the Nation, your *Patron* ſhould out live him. But, Doctor, why ſhould a vigorous Exertion of our Force, againſt the Emperor and *Spain*, contribute to the continuance of the Influence of *France*, that was a principal Party engaged by Treaty to act againſt both? Now,

to

to me it ſeems evident to a Demonſtration, that this very Reaſon you give, is ſo far from proving *that we were willing to get rid of the Influence of France*, that it proves the direct contrary. *France* wink'd at or rather projected the firſt Treaty of *Vienna*, that ſhe might inveigle us into that of *Hanover*. When ſhe had us faſt, and obliged us to an *enormous Expence*, (to uſe your own Words) by Sea and Land, ſhe held up the Rod, and bid us be *ſlow, ſupine, and pacifick*: We obey'd implicitly and literally, which you yourſelf admit. From all this, I wou'd be glad to know how we had ſhewn any Diſpoſition of thwarting the Views of *France*, or getting rid of her Influence?

Our Politicks, with regard to *Spain*, ſtand pretty near on the ſame footing, we were at actual War with her; there was an *intire Rupture*, by which the way was already open'd for other Nations to ſupplant us in our Trade with the *Spaniards*. Was it not more likely we ſhould recover the Friendſhip and Trade of *Spain* by convincing her we were in earneſt, than by ſhewing her and all *Europe* that we dare not injure her materially? We have ſeen much the ſame Game played over again by your *Patron*, in his proſecution of the preſent

preſent War with that Nation; and I ſuppoſe, from the ſame Motive; that is, in Coompliment to *France*, which above all other Countries, has been carreſs'd and dreaded by your *Patron*, and ſome others.

You come next to ſhew that our refuſal of the *ſole Mediation* between the *Emperor* and *Spain* was no miſtake in our Miniſters; I ſay *Miniſters*, becauſe you acquit your *Patron* of having any Hand in that memorable Tranſaction, which you lay wholly on his late Majeſty and the Lord *T— n—d*, as you did the Treaty of *Hanover*. I beg your Pardon; you divide the third part of theſe political Burdens to Count *Bothmar*, who by our Laws, had no Right to any Share in our Councils. But what matters it to ſully the Memory of the late King, by ſuggeſting that he ruled here by the Advice of *Foreigners*, provided your *Patron* be vindicated.

Tho' you aſſert your *Patron* had no Hand in refuſing the *ſole Mediation*, you will however, I ſuppoſe, to make good your Title-page, juſtify it. But this Juſtification, if there be any meaning in your own Words, proves the *Influence* of *France* as much as our *pacifick* Inſtructions to poor Admiral *Hoſier*, (page 38.) "But to

"view

" view this Point (of the *Refuſal*) in the " fair and genuine Light, what Intereſt " could we propoſe in endeavouring to " gratify the fluctuating Paſſions of a " ſilly Woman (the Queen of *Spain*, who " courted us to accept the ſole Mediation) " by diſobliging *France*, with whom, ever " ſince the Death of *Louis* XIV. we had " contracted the ſtricteſt Friendſhip?" — One Moment, you wou'd get rid of the *Influence* of *France*; and the next, what ſhou'd we get by *diſobliging* her? — Good Doctor, caſt your Eye a little on theſe *Contradictions*, before you give Orders for a new Edition of your Vindication.

You ſay, (page 36) " If the *Craftſ-* " *man* may be credited, this *Refuſal* was an " Error in our Cabinet, to which moſt of " our other Errors ſince that time have " been owing". I can't go quite this length, tho' I think the *Refuſal* an Error of the firſt Claſs, becauſe our Cabinet has produced ſome late Errors of far greater Conſequence, which, in no ſhape, depend on the *Refuſal*. But if there be no more Truth in your *Patron*'s having no Hand in the *Refuſal*, than what you aſſert (page 39) of the Emperor's Coolneſs in ſeeking our *Mediation*, few Men will acquit him of a ſhare of the Guilt. Nor wou'd you mention that Prince's *Coolneſs* in the light

you do, had you call'd to Mind what Baron *Palms*, the Emperor's Miniſter, publiſh'd here in 1726, on that Subject.

The next Tranſaction you attempt to juſtify, is the Treaty of *Seville*; but to perſue your *Patron's* Plan of *Gratitude* towards his late Majeſty, you are pleas'd to ſaddle that munificent Prince with this *Treaty*, made above two Years after his Death, as you did with that of *Hanover* and the Refuſal of the *ſole Mediation* (page 40.) " Peace and Trade being the Points " now in View, ſince the pernicious De- " ſigns of the Emperor and *Spain* were " defeated, what was to be done? Pray, " Sir, ſay how would you have behaved? " (I will anſwer for't, not as your *Patron* " did) Conſider the perplexed State of " Affairs, *owing chiefly, if not ſolely, to the* " *Meaſures of the late Reign*".——How fatal have ſome Princes been deluded to repoſe intire Confidence in the leaſt deſerving and moſt ungrateful of their Subjects!

All our Perplexities before the Treaty of *Hanover*, you judiciouſly impute to the Treaty of *Utrecht*; but having worn that *Salvo* threadbare, you come at laſt to ſhelter your *Patron* under the Umbrage of the *Blunders* of the *late Reign*. Did we compliment *Spain* in agreeing that *Spaniſh*

niſh in lieu of Neutral Troops ſhould Garriſon the *Tuſcan* Fortreſs, it was a Neceſſity upon us from the Meaſures of the *late Reign.* Did we agree to ſend *Don Carlos* to *Italy* at an *enormous* Expence to gratify the Vanity of the Queen of *Spain*, and expoſe ourſelves to the Ridicule of all *Europe*, blame the *late King* that had given Orders for defending *Gibraltar* in 1726. Did we do all this for *Spain* without obtaining Juſtice for her illegal Captures, or any one Conceſſion in favour of our injured Subjects; let the late King anſwer for it, who had given Orders for falling upon the *Spaniſh* Fleet in 1718. The ſame Excuſe, and pretty near the ſame Language runs through all the reſt of your concluſive Vindication: But apprehending you might burn your *Patron*'s unſullyed Fingers, did you take in all the *late Reign* in your Excuſe, we find you (page 47) cautiouſly guarding againſt any ſuch fatal Accident. " If you conſider alſo the " ardent Deſire of our Court to ged rid of " all ſuch Influence or Engagements with " *France*, as may have been contracted in " the *beginning* of the *late Reign*".—The word *Beginning* here is worth its weight in Gold; 'tis ſo emtremely precious, that I fancy you had it out of your great Maſter,

the *Enquirer*'s rare Cabinet of *Expedients*. Nor is it leſs probable that you borrowed alſo this other elegant Expedient from him; *The ardent Deſire of our Court to get rid of all ſuch Influence and Engagements with France*, &c.——Let your *Patron*'s whole Conduct ſince this Treaty of *Seville* witneſs for the *Ardency of his Deſire* to get rid of the Influence of *France*. The late War between *France* and the late *Emperor*; the *Convention*, and Proſecution of the preſent War with *Spain*; the Election of the preſent Emperor; the Neutraitly for *Hanover*; and the preſent unhappy Situation of the Queen of *Hungary*, are ſo many pugnant Proofs of the *great Ardency* of your *Patron* to get rid of the *Influence* of the Court of *France*.

But as there have been ſome all ſufficient *Divines*, who oppoſed their ſingle Opinion to the whole Church, ſo do we find you (page 63.) exulting that your *Patron* got rid of the Influence of *France*, in Oppoſition to the Opinion of all your Fellow Subjects, *Placemen* aud *Penſioners* excepted. " And here, Sir, let me ob-
" ſerve, to the Honour of the Miniſtry in
" General, and of Sir *R*——*W*—— in
" particular, that our Conduct during this
" War, (between the late *Emperor* and

France

" *France*, in Conſequence of the *Poliſh*
" Election) and ſoon after, in regard to
" the Difference between *Spain* and *Por-*
" *tugal*, evidently proves that *France* had
" no ſuch injurious Influence over our
" Councels as had been often invidiouſly
" ſuggeſted by this great Man's Enemies.
" Our naval Armements ſtruck Terror
" into *France* and *Spain* alternately.
" The *French* durſt not venture to the
" *Baltick* to relieve *Dantzick*, whilſt
" our Navy rid in the *Downs*; nor the
" *Spaniards* to inſult, much leſs attack
" *Portugal* whilſt our Fleet lay in the
" *Tagus*. Whatever degree of Influence
" may have been acquired by *France*
" during the *firſt Part* of his late Maje-
" ſty's Reign, on Account of the Houſe
" of *Orleans*'s Title to that Crown, theſe
" Inſtances of our Firmneſs, which I
" have cited inconteſtibly, prove that Sir
" *R——t* neither own'd nor ſtooped to
" any: And our ſucceſsful Endeavours at
" the Court of *Ruſſia*, before the late
" Revolution, to traverſe the Marquis *de*
" *Chetardy's* Negociations, is no leſs an
" Evidence of his own Reſolution and
" Caution, and the *Intire Independency of*
" *his Country*".— Poor Country! whoſe
Independency was never doubted, nor ſo
much

much as ſuſpected, till her *Miniſters* were *indepenſably obliged*, as you ſay they are, to have as conſtant and watchful an Eye to the *ſupporting* and even *extending* the Power and Influence of our preſent Royal Family in *Germany*, as to the defeating all Attempts in favour of the *Pretender!*

Keep eternal ſilence, O ye grumbling *Britons!* about *French* Influence; for Doctor *B*——— affirms, *in verbo Sacerdotis*, that it was all at an End in the Year 1735. Pray mind his Proofs. We had a Fleet in the *Downs* to protect our own Coaſt from the perfidious *French*, who were arming at *Breſt*, becauſe it is known they don't arm a Cockboat but *certain Folks* are ſeized with a *Panick:* and we ſent another Fleet to *Portugal* to protect our Trade. And, Blinded *Britons*, if you been't ſatisfied with theſe Teſtimonies of your *Independence*, take a Stride to *Ruſſia*, where you will find Footſteps of the cleareſt Evidence of Sir *Robert's* own *Reſolution* and *Caution*. Then you will find that *Monſieur de Chetardy* had wrought a *Revolution* of which the ſtout cautious *Knight* knew not a Tittle, tho' he had *Traverſed* the Marquis's Negotiations.——Sorry I am, that ſo much of the

Public

Public Money as we may ſuppoſe was ſunk *in ſecret Services* at *Petersburg* about this Time, ſhould turn to no better Account.

Much eaſier had it been for you, Reverend Doctor, to have proved our *Dependency* on *France*, during the late War between that Crown and the late *Emperor* and ever ſince. And I am of opinion it would have anſwered your *Patron*'s Purpoſe better. Had you ſtuck to your old Excuſes, the Treaty of *Utrecht* and the Meaſures at the *Beginning* of the *late Reign*, who dare attack Sir *R——t*'s *Courage* or *Caution?* Covered with ſuch impenetrable Armour as the *flagitious Treaty*, and the *Blunders* of the *Beginning* of the *late Reign*, what *Craftsman* would venture to meaſure Swords with him? But in throwing off the *Dependency* on *France*, you wave all *Excuſe*, and quite diſarm your *Patron*. In obliging him thus to ſtand on the Feet of his own Conduct ſince 1735. you do him irreparable Injury, which, I dare ſay, you did not intend. But ſuch is the dire Conſequence of Men's dabling in Matters above their Capacities.

Now had you held faſt by the *Blunders* of the *Beginning* of the late *Reign*, which cauſed our *Dependency* on *France*, it would be

be impoſſible to give your *Patron* ſo much as a ſlight Fleſh-wound, on Account of the Loſs of *Lorrain*, and *Naples* and *Sicily*, which, by the Treaties of *Utrecht* and *London*, we were obliged to Guaranty to the Houſes of *Lorrain* and *Auſtria*. He would be alſo acquitted of wounding the *Ballance of Power*, by ſuffering the Houſe of *Bourbon* to make ſuch conſiderable *Acquiſitions*. The ſame Excuſe would have ſerved for his ſuffering *France* to wriggle him out of all *Influence* at the *Ottoman* Court, where our *Mediation* was as much courted as at *Vienna*, for putting an equitable End to the late War between the *Porte* and the Emperor. Nay, had you abided by the *Security* you ſet out with, I would defy *B——g——ke* himſelf to find an opening to the unblemiſh'd Heart of your *Patron*. Without doubt you did not ſee this when you ſtript him of this *Breaſt-piece*; perhaps you don't ſee it as yet neither, after all my pains. I will endeavour then to put the Caſe in the cleareſt Light I am able. But before I enter upon this nice Point, let me tell you, that if your *Patron* had had the Wiſdom and Integrity of Cardinal *Richelieu*, he would have got rid of the *Influence* of *France*, ſuppoſing there had been any

from

from the Meaſures of the *Beginning* of the late Reign, as the other did of the *Influence* of the Court of *Rome*, as ſoon as he was inveſted with Power by *Louis* XIII. tho' the Story be well known and atteſted, 'tis poſſible it might have eſcaped you. 'Tis this.

During the Regency of *Catherine* of *Medicis*, an *Italian*, the Court of *Rome* had acquired ſo great an Aſcendant over the Councils of *France*, that nothing of Moment was tranſacted, but by Advice or rather Permiſſion from the Cardinal, Secretary to his *Holineſs*. This Influence continued during the Adminiſtration of *D'Ancre* and *Deluynes*, the Miniſters preceding *Richelieu*. It was no ſooner known at *Rome* that this laſt was declared Miniſter, but the Pontiff's Secretary wrote a long Letter of Inſtructions to him as uſual, how he ſhould behave; to which, *Rihelieu* made this ſhort Anſwer, *That the King his Maſter had changed his Miniſter; and the Miniſter had changed Meaſures.*— Here was a ſhort End put to the *Influence* of the Court of *Rome*; and the like ſhort End might have been put to the *Influence* of *France*, if any there had been from the Meaſures of his late Majeſty at the *beginning* of his Reign, if your *Patron* had

been endow'd with the Sagacity, Fortitude and Integrity of *Richelieu*, or *Burleigh*.—But to return from this Digreſſion, which I ſuppoſe you will call impertinent, to the Armour of *French* Influence.

To ſuppoſe, along with you, the abſolute Influence of *France*, acquired at the *beginning* of the late Reign, the Conduct of your *Patron*, as to our *Foreign* or *Domeſtic* Affairs, cannot without great Injuſtice be impeach'd. For, if the *Influence* was abſolute, *Richelieu* himſelf, were he in his Place, muſt have ſubmitted implicitly. Therefore, for any *Craftsman* to find fault with our Negotiations Abroad or Malverſations at Home, when we were under the abſolute *Influence* of our Rival and natural Enemy, would be to ſuppoſe that this *Enemy* knew ſo little of her own Intereſt, as to permit us to be faithful to ours; whereas 'tis notorious that no Nation in *Europe* knows, or is more faithful to their own *Intereſt* than the *French*.

From this ſhort ſketch, you may perceive, how unfaithful you were to your *Patron*, for having ſtript him of the Armour of *French Influence* in 1735, not long before the *Convention*, and the Ruin of the Houſe of *Auſtria*. Had you wiſely kept on his *French* Trammels to the End, there

there is not a Country 'Squire in the Nation could touch a grey Hair of his Head. But as you have imprudently managed Matters, I won't anſwer that ſomewhat more than his Hair would not be in Danger, if he had no ſecret *moderate* Friends.

How altered are you (page 63.) when you caſt off *French Influence*, from what you were (page 42.) when we find you as *frenchifyed* as the old Cardinal himſelf! Here you tell us in Support of the Treaty of *Seville*; " Might it not reaſonably be " ſuppoſed at that Time, (when the " Treaty of *Seville* was on the Carpet) " however Things are fatally altered " ſince, that it would be our Intereſt to " have *Italy* in the Poſſeſſion of a People, " whoſe natural Indolence would give " us the Advantage of ſupplying them " wherever they are, with our Manu- " factures, particularly the *Woollen*"? — What need any other Juſtification of the Treaty of *Seville*? The Staple Manufacture of the Nation was on the Decay; therefore to retrieve it, *Italy* muſt be given to the indolent *Spaniards*, having more Money to buy our *Woollen* Goods than the poor indigent *Germans*. Who can trace *French Influence* in this Patriot Strain of Reaſoning?

We find this choice Argument purſued (page 59) when you account for our *Neutrality* whilſt the late Emperor was worried by the different Branches of the Houſe of *Bourbon*. " Ought we to have taken part " in a Quarrel that was unjuſt; that did " not materially affect either theſe Nati- " ons, or the Balance of Power? Our Com- " mercial Intereſt was quite out of the " Queſtion; or if it could be affected, it " muſt have been for the better, ſince, as " I have hinted before, our Trade to *Italy* " was cramped and reſtrained, whilſt *Na- " ples* and *Sicily* were in poſſeſſion of the " Emperor; and was like never to be ſo if " theſe Kingdoms came into the Hands " of the indolent *Spaniards*".——Tho' what immediately follows be extremely curious and new; yet, Doctor, it might as well have been left out, conſidering that before your Vindication could be printed, the King of the two *Sicilies* had given Orders for the March of a well equipt Army of 14000 Men, Horſe and Foot, to ſupport his Brother *Don Philip*'s Views on the *Milaneſe*. " Beſides, the Poſſeſſion " of *Naples* and *Sicily*, rather weaken'd " than ſtrengthen'd the *Emperor*; and far " from adding to the Strength of *Spain*, " they muſt be always a Drain upon her".—

The

The World won't make me believe but that *Monſieur B-ſſ-y* was at one Elbow, and your Influenced *Patron* at the other, whilſt you were penning this nervous, convincing *Vindication.*

My very worthy Reverend *Vindicator*, permit me to take my leave of you here, ſince the longer we travel together, the more we ſhall diſagree. Your Politics and mine differ ſo widely, 'tis impoſſible I ſhould keep you Company any longer without expoſing you more than I have done, or giving up my own Judgment. I am unwilling, for the ſake of your Cloth, to do the firſt; and Self-Love won't permit me to do the latter. After ſuch Friendly Expoſtulations, methinks, you ought to let me go in Peace; but you ſtill draw me in, as Children do one another, to have the Pleaſure of giving the parting Blow. To it then in haſte, for I vow to you, I am heartily tired of drudging after you to the *Convention* in your Sixty-third page,

I can't but admire your Prudence, in coupling the *Convention* and memorable *Exciſe* Scheme together. "Conſidering "the public Diſtaſte induſtriouſly raiſed "againſt the *Convention*, 'tis ſcarce to be "hoped that even *Truth* herſelf will be "heard

" heard in Favour of it, with courteous " Patience. It was the ſame with the " *Exciſe Scheme*, ſo called ſome Years be- " fore; and yet I can't help thinking that " both the one and the other may be am- " ply juſtified before an Impartial *Minos*, " or even a *P——ey*, diveſted of his *Paſ-* " *ſions* and *Reſentment*"—This laſt Compliment to the Gentleman, whoſe *Moderation* you court all along and ſtand in Need of, is another Inſtance of your ſuperior Judgment.

In treating this Point of the *Convention*, you take infinite Pains to ſhew us the Advantages of the Trade of *Spain*, which no one ever denyed; but you take no Notice of our *Plantation* Trade, which is infinitely more valuable and advantageous to us than that, or any, or indeed, than all our other Branches of Trade beſides. This is the Trade which ought to have been ſecured by the *Convention*: And unleſs you could ſhew that there was any ſuch *Security* obtain'd by that Preliminary, all you ſay beſides muſt and ought to go for nothing.

The Commons, on the 30th of *March* 1738, and the Lords on the 2d of *May* following, came to an unanimous Reſolulution, *that Satisfaction ſhould be obtain'd for*

for the future Security of our Trade and Navigation to America, *as our undoubted Right.* And his Majeſty, in his Gracious Anſwers to the Addreſſes of both Houſes, was pleaſed to aſſure them, " That they may be aſſured of his Care to procure Satisfaction and Reparation for the Loſſes his Subjects had already ſuffered, *and Security for the Freedom of Navigation for the future.* If you can ſhew, that this *Security* for our Navigation, which was aſſerted by an unanimous Houſe of Parliament, and promiſed by his Majeſty, was obtain'd by your *Patron*'s Convention, you have a right to exult, and aſſert you wou'd prove the rectitude of that *Negociation* before a *Minos* or a *P——ey.* But, Reverend Sir, unleſs you could do this, all that you have or could urge in juſtification of the *Convention*, is a mere Banter upon your *Patron*, and an Inſult on the whole Nation.

That no ſuch *Security* was obtained is a Fact not to be controverted. There is not a Syllable, either expreſs'd or implyed, that tends to the *Security* of our *Navigation* for the future. On the contrary, we find that the *Right of a Free Navigation*, which was declared clear and undoubted by both Houſes, to have been rendered dark and doubtful,

doubtful, by the *Convention*, if not wholly given up. For by that infamous Preliminary, it was ſtipulated that a Diſcuſſion of that *undoubted Right* ſhould be ſubmitted to the Diſcuſſion of Plenipotentiaries. This was a direct and arbitrary Violation of the Reſolution of both Houſes of Parliament, which ought to have been the Ground-work on which our Negotiators ought to have gone: It ought to have been the *Sine qua non* of all future Negotiations between us and *Spain*.

To conclude: A *Convention*, without aſcertaining this *undoubted Right*, was diſreſpectful, if not injurious to his Majeſty, who had graciouſly declared he would procure *Security for the Freedom of Navigation for the future*; it was a culpable Diſregard of Parliamentary Authority, not only from the Fact itſelf, but from the Conſequences of it; ſince it gave *Spain* a handle for inſiſting on the Terms of the *Convention*, and thereby render'd our *Right of Navigation* on the *American* Seas, by our own Conceſſions, precarious, or at leaſt doubtful.

" No *Search* at Sea, you ſay (page 72) " was what we had a right to contend " for".—— Again, (page 71) " a free " Navigation to and from our Colonies in

" *America*

" *America* was the principal Object of " our Attention: Our Conteſt may be " ſaid to have chiefly, if not wholly, " turned on this ſingle Point. All our " other Grievances, all our other Com- " plaints againſt *Spain*, tho' ſome of them " were of Conſequence, yet, if they be " conſidered attentively, they were trivial " when compared with that ſingle Arti- " cle of the *Freedom* of our *Navigation*". ——All your Sermons put together never contain'd more *Truth* or ſounder Doctrine than you oblige your courteous Readers with in theſe few Lines. But how one of your Cloth comes to bolt out ſo much *Truth*, and ſo unſeaſonably, is Matter of great Surprize to all your Readers. Surely you forgot you were vindicating *one* who never could bear *Truth* in his whole Life!

But, my Reverend Treaty Champion, was it not incumbent upon you to ſhew that your *Patron* had obtain'd this Security for the *Freedom of our Navigation*, this *no Search at Sea*, which you ſay was the *ultimatum* of our Diſputes with *Spain*? I believe, the *Convention* was the firſt *Preliminary* ever ſeen or heard of, wherein the chief, the only Point (by your own Confeſſion) in diſpute, was not ſettled. But ſay you in the ſame page 72, " What " was there in the *Convention* that tended to " the ſecluding us from ſuch *Free Navi-*

'*gation* as we had a right to?"——Indeed, my good Doctor, you are no Conjurer at Treaty-defending, or you would have known that the not aſcertaining a *Right* which we had, was tacitly ſecluding us from that *Right:* And to leave that *Right* to the future Diſcuſſion of *Plenipo*'s was rendering *that* precarious and diſputable, which you yourſelf ſay was undoubted.

Your ſtating the Caſe ſo very ſtrongly with regard to our *Right of Navigation*, and ſolving it ſo egregiouſly weak as you do, puts me in Mind of one of your Brother *Doctors* of the *Romiſh* Church, *Bellarmine*, who is ſaid to have ſtated ſome Objections to his Religion ſo ſtrongly, that he was never able to invalidate them.

You have prudently avoided mentioning the famous *Proteſt*, ſubſequent to the more famous *Convention*, which deſtroys the whole, unleſs our South-Sea Company pay for the unjuſt Captures of the Ships and Effects of their Countrymen. Your Silence as to this *Proteſt* ſhews ſome Judgment; but it ſhews at the ſame time that you are not very ſcruplulous about keeping your *Promiſes*. But you might have learn't of your *Patron*, that it was not modiſh to be a Slave to one's Word; or perhaps you did not think your *Patron* to be any way concern'd in that *Foreign Tranſaction.*

Tranſaction. All I ſhall ſay of that *Proteſt*, ſince you ſay nothing of it, is, that if your *Patron* be not accountable for it, 'tis to be hoped *Don B——n* will anſwer for it with his————.

The next and laſt Point you attempt to vindicate your *Patron* in, is, his Conduct towards the Houſe of *Auſtria*, which you handle in juſt ſuch a Manner as you did the *Convention:* That is, you ſay a great deal, and prove nothing; or if any thing, that your *Patron* did not do his Duty, nor *ſome others* what they ought, out of dread of *France*, and fatal *Tenderneſs* for a *Foreign Concern.* You give us a long inſipid detail of the late Emperor's Conduct, Miſtakes, and Errors of thirty Years before his Death, which was juſt as much to the preſent purpoſe of ſuccouring the unhappy Queen of *Hungary*, as if you had entertain'd your Readers with the Children's Tale of *Robin-Hood*, or the fabulous Hiſtory of *Guy* of *Warwick.*

'Tis merry enough to hear a little Self-conceited P——t declaim through five or ſix fulſom pages againſt the Conduct of the firſt Prince of *Europe*, in order to vindicate an upſtart Subject that was never known to have done a good or popular thing, or to have once deviated into a *right Meaſure* in all the time of his long Adminiſtration.

Had you any Regard, or even Reſpect for your *Patron*'s M——r, you would have ſaid nothing of the late *Neutrality* for *H——r*. As ſome Tranſactions won't bear the light, the leſs that is ſaid of them the better. The famous *Proteſt* at the *Pardo* was one of thoſe tender Points; wherefore it was wiſe to let it lie in Oblivion; and it wou'd have been as wiſe, and more decent to have permitted the *Neutrality* to reſt in Peace.

How little Reaſon you had for throwing out the following bold *Defyance*, (page 79) let the preſent unhappy Situation of the Queen of *Hungary* ſpeak. "As for "the particular Conduct of the Adminiſtration with regard to the Queen of "*Hungary* ſince her Father's Death, I de"fy *Envy* itſelf to point out any material "Error or Miſtake in it to the time of my "writing, which is the beginning of the "preſent New Year".—— Dear Doctor, was you elevated with a *quantum ſufficit* of your *Patron*'s *Champaine* when you penn'd this doughty Challenge?— No *Error* committed ſince the Emperor's Death! Surely you forgot what you yourſelf had ſaid juſt before (page 78) *that Mediation was all that was attempted in favour of the Queen of* Hungary *ſince her Father*'s *Death*. Pray, my Reverend Champion, was *Mediation* like to be efficacious for

for preſerving the Succeſſion of *Auſtria* intire? was *Mediation* like to prevent the Conqueſt of *Sileſia* and *Bohemia*? Was it ſufficient to obtain the Imperial Crown for the Conſort of the Heireſs of *Auſtria*? Was *Mediating* only fulfilling our Guaranty of the *Pragmatic Sanction*?——Fye upon't, Doctor! the greateſt Dunce in your *quondam* S——*e*, could not throw out ſo ſilly a Defiance.

Unleſs you can ſhew us that any thing more than *Mediation* was done all the laſt Year, for the Queen of *Hungary*, you have no kind of Right to throw out the Gauntlet as you do. If any think more than *Mediation* had been done, you ſurely had ſhewn it; which is the ſtrongeſt preſumptive Proof that nothing elſe was done. But does not the preſent unhappy Condition of that *Princeſs* ſhew that nothing elſe but *Mediation* was attempted in her Favour? Does not the famous *Neutrality*, and the Vote of a certain *Elector* given ſpontaneouſly to the Duke of *Bavaria*, ſhew that a *Dread* of *France* and *Tenderneſs* for a *Foreign Country*, had clogg'd all our Meaſures in favour of the Houſe of *Auſtria*; and prevented our performing our Treaties with that natural Ally? If your Prejudice had permitted you to reflect ever ſo curſorily on theſe Tranſactions, you would be ſo far from vindicating your

Patron's

Patron's Conduct with regard to the Queen of *Hungary*, that I am ſatisfied you would have agreed with all your Fellow Subjects (his Tools excepted) that his Cowardice and Blundering had brought all her preſent Calamities on that poor deluded Princeſs.

You ſee, my old Reverend *Pedagogue*, that I have cloſely traced you through all your Doublings and Windings. Perhaps you won't thank me for my Pains; tho' you ought, becauſe Thanks are due to every Man who ſets his Neighbour right: But that you may be convinced of my charitable Intentions, I will ſet before you, in a very few Words, a Sketch of your long and labour'd *Vindication*. I don't know what your *Patron*'s Tools may think of it; but I will venture to ſay, that all the Nation beſides, will think it to be ſcrupulouſly true, and exactly reſembling.

Your *Patron* had no Hand in the Treaty of *Hanover*, which was projected and concluded by Lord *Townſhend*, who can't ſay a Syllable in his own Juſtification.

But ſuppoſing he had a Hand in it, he might ſafely, becauſe the Treaty was neceſſary as Matters had been blunder'd by the late ——— and his Miniſters at the beginning of his Reign.

The *Non-Acceptance* of the *ſole Mediation*

tion between the late *Emperor* and *Spain*, previous to the Treaty of *Hanover*, was not the handy Work of your *Patron*; but if it had, it was a right Meaſure, becauſe it would have diſobliged *France* to have accepted of the *ſole Mediation*.

The Treaty of *Seville* was neceſſary, becauſe it paved the Way for the ſecond Treaty of *Vienna*; and this laſt was neceſſary, becauſe we had a Mind to throw off all Dependance on *France*.—The next Article will ſhew how willing we were to get rid of this *Dependance*.

Our *Neutrality* during the late War between the Emperor and *France* about the Election of *Poland* was right, becauſe the War was juſt on the Part of *France*; and the ſtripping the Emperor of *Naples* and *Sicily* was of Advantage to him, and none to the Houſe of *Bourbon*.

The obtaining *Security* for the Freedom of our Navigation in the *American* Seas, was the whole of our Diſputes with *Spain*; and becauſe our *Right* to ſuch Freedom of Navigation was to be diſcuſſed by *Plenipos*, therefore the *Convention* was an admirable good *Convention*, and the Projector of it was a faithful and able Stateſman.

Envy itſelf can't find an Error or Miſtake in your *Patron*'s Conduct with regard to the Queen of *Hungary* ſince her Father's

Father's Death, becauſe we have *mediated* in her Favour all the laſt Year. And further, a *Neutrality* for *H———r* was concluded, and a *Vote* was given to the Duke of *Bavaria*, purely to help and oblige her *Hungarian* Majeſty.

All the Difficulties of the preſent Reign, and the Adminiſtration of your *Patron*, muſt be imputed to the damn'd Treaty of *Utrecht*, and the late *King*'s Fondneſs for the late *Regent* of *France*. All our Expences muſt be placed to the ſame Account.

And if your *Patron*'s Conduct be exceptionable in any Part of it, let it be known that he was obliged to aggrandize *Hanover* as much as *England*; this being a Point a *Britiſh* Miniſter *muſt have always in view*. And further: Every *Britiſh* Minſter, who would acquire the *Confidence* of the Prince, muſt be as watchful of the Intereſt of *Hanover*, as of keeping out the *Pretender*.

You will find the Subſtance of your long *Vindication* to be faithfully contained in theſe few Lines, of which I make you a Preſent; and ſo bid you, my Reverend *Vindicator*, heartily farewell, for ever.

F I N I S.

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